



The importance of independence

Hot off the press –

The Australian legal system insists that independent experts remain independent of the engaging party and aid the courts in reaching a view on matters that are the province of the expert. The expert is effectively a servant of the court.



Value Adviser Associates provides independent expert evidence in a wide range of valuation-related disputes. The judgment in a recent case was handed down last week and stresses the importance of ensuring that the expert remains independent of the engaging parties following the withdrawal of a number of key experts.

In the judgement, Davies J reported that senior counsel “abandoned reliance on their expert witness, conceding that their experts lacked independence” and reiterated that the role of an expert witness is to provide independent assistance to the Court.

The judgement is available at: [BOSI Security Services Limited v Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited & Ors](#). Scroll to F: VALUATION. (f) Conclusion. Line 139

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